

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY
MAYOR



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Mayor Healy to Honor Iraq War Veteran who Received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star Jersey City Native Will Receive Hometown Honors for his Courage, Sacrifice and Dedication to Country

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy will honor First Lt. Derrick Syed, an Iraq War Veteran and a recipient of both the Purple Heart and Bronze Medal, during a proclamation ceremony at 3 p.m. on Thursday, June 26, 2008 at City Hall, 280 Grove Street.

“It is important that Jersey City recognizes the sacrifices that our war heroes unselfishly have made and continue to make so that we can enjoy our freedom,” said **Mayor Healy**. “In honoring this young man for his bravery, we are also paying homage to all those who have served our country.”

A Pakistani-American and member of the Jersey City community, First Lt. Derrick Syed served in the United States Army as the Second Platoon Leader for D/2-325 Airborne Infantry Regiment in Baghdad from January 4, 2007 to May 23, 2007. He then served in the Battalion S-3 Air from November 1, 2007 through April 1, 2008. First Lt. Derrick Syed was deployed with his platoon to the outskirts of Sadr City until being wounded during a combat patrol.

First Lt. Derrick Syed, who was at the time an infantry platoon leader in the 82nd Airborne Division, was injured in Baghdad in 2007 by a sniper. After he was transported to a combat support hospital, the 1st Cavalry Division Sergeant Major presented First Lt. Derrick Syed with the Purple Heart. From there, he was transported to Germany for additional care. First Lt. Derrick Syed returned back to combat in order to complete his tour of duty after only four months of recovery in the United States.

First Lt. Derrick Syed has been promoted to Captain and will be joining an elite staff college for officers in Arizona.

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“Derrick’s actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect distinct credit upon himself, his family and all those who served with him,” said **Mayor Healy**.

Lt. Derrick Syed is a graduate of Saint Mary’s High School and the New Jersey City University.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.

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